



## **CABINET - TUESDAY 24 MARCH 2026**

### **ORDER PAPER**

#### **ITEM    DETAILS**

#### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Mr. C. Pugsley CC.

#### **1.    MINUTES (Pages 3 - 10)**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2026 be taken as read, confirmed, and signed.

#### **2.    URGENT ITEMS**

None.

#### **3.    DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members of the Cabinet are asked to declare any interests in the business to be discussed.

#### **4.    ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT 2026/27 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND WORKS PROGRAMME (Pages 11-70 )**

- *Comments have been received from Mr. P. King CC, and are attached to the Order Paper, marked '4a'.*

#### **Proposed motion**

- a) That the 2026/27 Programmes be approved, noting the acute financial context in which they have been developed and will be delivered, as set out in Part B of the report;
- b) That the submission of the draft Local Transport Delivery Plan (LTDP) to the Department for Transport (DfT) on 20 March 2026 for review, to meet the DfT's requirements, be noted. A separate report will be brought to the Cabinet in September 2026, prior to the submission of the final LTDP;
- c) That the Director of Environment and Transport be authorised:
  - i. Following consultation with the Director of Corporate Resources and the relevant Cabinet Lead Members, to prepare and submit bids, as

appropriate, to secure external funding for delivery of schemes identified in the Programmes;

- ii. Following consultation with the Director of Corporate Resources, the Assistant Director of Law and Governance and the Cabinet Lead Member for Resources, to enter such contracts as is necessary to progress schemes in the approved Programmes to allow early contractor involvement to take place in advance of all external funding required to deliver the scheme being secured, provided that any such arrangements are appropriately limited in scope and progressed in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and Financial Procedure Rules, and do not commit the Council beyond the intended early-stage works prior to the relevant funding and governance approvals being in place, noting the challenges set out in Part B of the report;
- iii. Following consultation with the Director of Corporate Resources, the Assistant Director of Law and Governance and the Cabinet Lead Member for Resources, to undertake preparatory work as considered appropriate to develop savings as set out in the Medium Term Financial Strategy and to consider that further savings are implemented in a timely manner.

**5. DELIVERING THE LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN (LTP4) 2025-2040 – ENABLING TRAVEL CHOICE STRATEGY (Pages 71 - 112)**

Proposed motion

- a) That the work undertaken to date on the development of the Enabling Travel Choice Strategy (ETCS) and the outcomes of the initial consultation held to inform its development be noted;
- b) That the draft ETCS document, attached as Appendix A to the report, be approved for consultation;
- c) That a twelve-week consultation on the draft ETCS document be undertaken;
- d) That, subject to the outcomes of the consultation, the Director of Environment and Transport, in accordance with the Council's Constitution:
  - i. Following consultation with the Cabinet Lead Member for Highways, Transport and Waste, the Director of Corporate Resources and the Director of Public Health, Law and Governance, undertakes further work to prepare a final version of the ETCS;
  - ii. Submits a further report to the Cabinet in Autumn 2026 seeking approval of the final version of the ETCS.

**6. EAST MIDLANDS FREEPORT: CHANGE OF ACCOUNTABLE BODY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS (Pages 113 - 120)**

Proposed motion

- a) That the transfer of the Accountable Body role from the County Council to East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA), along with the governance, assurance and voting implications arising from this be noted;
- b) That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive, following consultation with the Director of Corporate Resources and the Cabinet Lead Member for Resources, to take all actions and decisions required of the County Council in its capacity as a member organisation of the East Midlands Freeport, excluding any matters reserved to, or exercised by, the County Council's appointed EMF Board Director.

**7. LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOL TERM DATES AUTUMN 2027 TO SUMMER 2032**  
(Pages 121 - 140)

- *Comments have been received from members of the Leicestershire County Council Labour Group (Mr. J. Miah CC and Ms. B. Gray CC). These are attached to the Order Paper, marked '7a'.*

Proposed motion

That the proposed term date models for Leicestershire for the academic years 2027/28 to 2031/32, in particular Option 2, be reconsidered and presented to the Cabinet on 28 April, prior to a consultation exercise being undertaken.

**8. 'BELONGING IN EDUCATION' STRATEGY 2026-2029** (Pages 141 - 180)

Proposed motion

- a) That the draft Belonging in Education Strategy be approved for consultation;
- b) That a further report be submitted to the Cabinet in July 2026 presenting the outcomes of the consultation and the final Strategy for approval.

**9. DOMESTIC ABUSE REDUCTION STRATEGY 2026-2029 – PERMISSION TO CONSULT** (Pages 181 – 308)

Proposed motion

- a) That the draft Domestic Abuse Reduction Strategy 2026-2029 be approved for a twelve week consultation exercise;
- b) That a further report be submitted to the Cabinet in July 2026 presenting the findings of the consultation and a final Strategy for approval.

**10. DRAFT LEICESTERSHIRE CARERS STRATEGY 2026-2030** (Pages 309 – 342)

Proposed motion

- a) That the draft Leicestershire Carers Strategy 2026-2030 be approved for consultation;
- b) That a further report be submitted to the Cabinet in September 2026 presenting the outcome of the consultation and the final Strategy for approval.

**11. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION – RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION**  
(Pages 355 - 360 and supplementary report pages 1-52)

Proposed motion

- a) That the consultation response for submission to the Government by the deadline of 26 March 2026, as set out in Appendices A-C of the report, be approved;
- b) That the consultation response ratings for submission to the Government by the deadline of 26 March 2026, as set out in Appendix D of the report, be approved;
- c) That the Chief Executive, following consultation with the Leader and Director of Corporate Resources, be authorised to make any necessary amendments to the consultation response before it is submitted to the Government provided that these do not change the underlying principles of the response as presented in the report;
- d) That the comments of the Scrutiny Commission be noted.

**12. ITEMS REFERRED FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

None.

**13. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN HAS DECIDED TO TAKE AS URGENT**

None.

**14. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Proposed motion

That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 3 and 10 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and that, in all circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information:

*A511 Growth Corridor – Approval to Undertake Pre-Commencement Works and Submit the Full Business Case*

**Officer to contact**

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**Cabinet – 24 March 2026**

**Comments from Mr. P. King CC**

**Item 4: Highways and Transportation Capital and Works Programme**

As the Division Member for Gartree, which includes the A6 from the Oadby border to north of the West Langton roundabout, I welcome the inclusion of a number of locally relevant schemes within this programme affecting Great Glen, the Kibworths, West Langton and the wider Harborough area.

These include proposed carriageway works to the A6 roundabout at West Langton, bridge strengthening works in Great Glen, and flood prevention works at Kibworth Mead Academy. These are important schemes which will deliver tangible local benefits, particularly in improving safety, resilience and the day to day operation of the network.

However, it is important to recognise that these measures are targeted and localised interventions. Whilst they may provide some improvement to the severe congestion experienced on a daily basis, they do not represent the long term solution required to address the scale of pressure on the A6 corridor through the Kibworths.

The proposed junction improvements through the Kibworths on the A6 were first identified as a potential scheme in 2016. Over that same period, traffic volumes have increased, development pressures have intensified, and concerns relating to congestion, safety, noise and air quality have continued to grow.

As I have stated previously, I welcome the work now being undertaken to deliver these improvements and to consider strategic options for the A6 corridor. However, this must be considered in the context of the recent decision by Harborough District Council on 16 March to submit its draft Local Plan for examination.

That plan proposes significant levels of growth, including the potential for a new settlement, larger than Lutterworth, on land south of Gartree Road between Oadby and Great Glen. It is not clear that the full transport impacts of this level of development have been adequately understood, nor that appropriate mitigation measures have been identified, costed or secured.

This creates a clear risk that development will proceed in advance of the infrastructure required to support it, placing additional strain on an already constrained network.

It is essential that transport infrastructure planning, funding and delivery are aligned with the scale and timing of development. Without this, there is a risk that existing communities will experience worsening congestion, environmental impacts and reduced quality of life.

Accordingly, further work on the A6 corridor should now be prioritised, with a clear focus on progressing from feasibility to a deliverable, funded scheme with a defined timetable for implementation.

The second major issue in my division is flooding in Great Glen. In both 2024 and 2025, the community experienced severe flooding when the River Sence and Burton Brook burst their banks. The limited works undertaken so far are welcomed, but I cannot see any significant new measures included in this programme for that locality.

Whilst I recognise that primary responsibility may sit with the Environment Agency and water companies, there is a clear urgency to develop and deliver appropriate flood protection measures. I therefore strongly urge the Leader and Cabinet to work with the relevant agencies to address residents' concerns as a matter of urgency.

Thank you.

Phil King  
County Councillor for  
Gartree Division.

**Item 7a****From County Councillors**

Mr Jewel Miah and Ms Beverley Gray

County Councillors Loughborough East and Loughborough South

23 March 2026

**RE: Item 7 Cabinet Agenda 24 March 2026, LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOL TERM DATES AUTUMN 2027 TO SUMMER 2032**

Dear Cabinet,

We write to you in regards of the above agenda item which you will be discussing at your next meeting.

We have had numerous contacts from parents and residents against ANY proposal to change the current summer term times in Leicestershire. Residents feel strongly that no changes should be made and that the Leicestershire 'July fortnight' be kept, with schools continuing to break up earlier than those in the rest of the country.

The main reason cited in the report for change is to balance out terms dates and some children may have differing term dates if they attend schools outside of the County. We are not certain that these two reasons outweigh the massive financial disadvantage that Leicestershire residents will immediately face if changes are made.

Overwhelmingly the feedback received is that residents prefer the status quo. The earlier break gives them the financial benefit of being able to take their families on holiday at an affordable time and when more holiday destinations are readily available. Any changes would mean additional financial costs and dwindling destination choices, something which we are sure Cabinet does not wish to burden Leicestershire residents with.

As there are only two years left of this authority in its current form, we would advise Cabinet concentrates its time and resources on the more pressing issues of local government re-organisation, social care, upgrading our highways and tackling the budgetary shortfall being faced by this council, it should not get distracted with issues that are not a priority for its residents.

**Members Group Room**

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We are also certain that any new authority will reverse any changes proposed to school term dates as it will undoubtedly become a political and electoral matter for the 2027 shadow authority elections.

We would therefore urge Cabinet to not progress this paper any further.

Kind regards,

*Jewel Miah*

Cllr Jewel Miah  
County Councillor  
Loughborough East

*Beverley Gray*

Cllr Beverley Gray  
County Councillor  
Loughborough South